

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 NEA-11 OMB-01 DRC-01 /117 W

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R 221522Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8307

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 0352

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR YO BE

SUBJECT: BREZHNEV POORMOUTHS US IN TITO CONVERSATION

1. BELGIAN CHARGE ADAM CALLED AT EMB JANUARY 21 TO REPORT ON PRIME MINISTER LEBURTON MEETING WITH TITO JANUARY 10. DISCUSSION WAS ALMOST WHOLLY DEVOTED TO ME, WITH TITO IN PESSIMISTIC MOOD. TITO CRITICIZED ALLEGED THREATS OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AGAINST ARAB OIL PRODUCERS AS DANGEROUS ANACHRONISM IN TODAY'S WORLD. AS FURTHER GROUNDS FOR PESSIMISM, HE CLAIMED US-SOVIET CONSULTATION IS NOT EFFECTIVE. TITO RELATED THAT WHEN HE MET BREZHNEV AT KIEV LATTER WAS UPSET THAT SECRETARY HAD GONE FROM MOSCOW TO TEL AVIV TO DELIVER SIX-POINT PLAN WITHOUT FIRST TELLING SOVIETS ABOUT IT. FAILURE TO CONSULT RESULTED IN DANGEROUS ESCALATION OF REACTIONS TO ME DEVELOPMENTS BY SUPERPOWERS. "WHAT KIND OF CONSULTATION IS THAT?", TITO ASKED LEBURTON.

2. COMMENT. EMBASSY ASSUMES BREZHNEV WAS REFERRING TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S OCTOBER 20 MOSCOW VISIT WHICH WAS FOLLOWED BY TEL AVIV STOP. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN DEPARTMENT AND MOSCOW COMMENT ON THIS ALLEGED CONVERSATION, BECAUSE IT POSSIBLE BREZHNEV MAY DELIBERATELY HAVE MISLED TITO ON THE NATURE OF THE CONSULTATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO UNDERMINE YUGOSLAV CONFIDENCE IN US VERACITY AND DEPENDABILITY.

JOHNSON

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Message Attributes

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